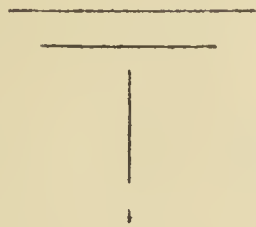


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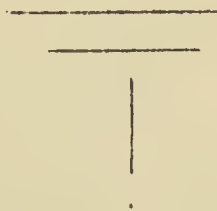
OTTERY ST. MARY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



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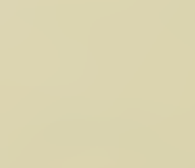
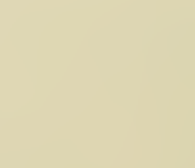
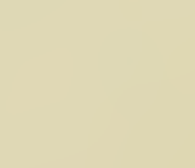
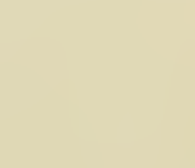
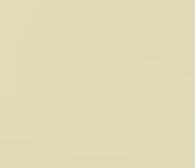
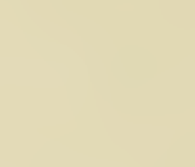
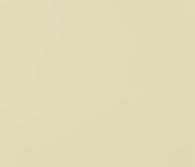
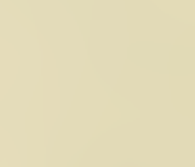
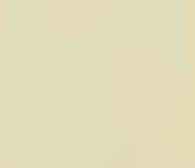
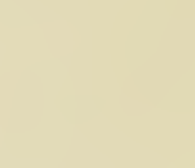
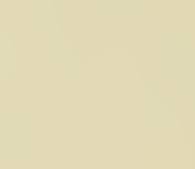
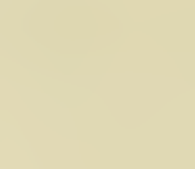
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR

19₅₀.



F. N. SIDEBOTHAM

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF OTTERY SAINT MARY.

To the Chairman and Members of the Ottery Saint Mary Urban District Council.

I beg to present to you a statement of the Public Health of your District for the year 1950.

Vital Statistics.

Live Births	...	37.
Still Births	...	0.
Boys	...	22.
Girls	...	15.

The birth rate was about the average for the last few years.

There was one illegitimate birth.

Deaths.

In our own district ... 39.

Transferable from other districts 12.

Males	...	27.
Females	...	24.

Of these deaths:-

- 1 had reached the age of 90 years and upward.
- 11 had reached the age of 80 years and upward.
- 32 had reached the age of 70 years and upward.

There were three deaths of children under one year.

There were seven deaths from Cancer; one from Tuberculosis; three accidental deaths; and no case of suicide.

The average age of death was about 63 years.

Hospital

The following details have been given by the Secretary of the Ottery Saint Mary District Cottage Hospital, viz:-

Admissions	...	237.
Discharges	...	226.
Out Patients	...	517.
Out Patients attendance	...	1,506.
Operations	...	139.
Deaths	...	10.

A Physiotherapy Department has now been opened. During the year 122 patients attended, and 1,063 treatments were given.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The Infant Welfare Centre is open every week except during holiday periods. During this year it was open 47 times.

On the Register there were:- 50 Mothers; 31 Infants; and 28 Toddlers. The attendances were as follows, viz:-

Mothers	-	526.
Infants	-	242.
Toddlers	-	414.

The Centre is not so well attended as in previous years, and I consider that this may be due to the fact that the mothers tend to take their babies to their own Family Doctor now that they are entitled to advice under the new Health Service.



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Prevalence and Treatment of Infectious Diseases.

I received the following notifications of Infectious Diseases during the year, viz:-

Measles	2.
Tuberculosis	6.
(1 Surgical; 5 Medical)	
Polio-Myelitis	0.
Scarlet Fever	2.
Whooping Cough	3.
Cerebro-Spinal	
Meningitis	0.
Dysentery	0.
Erysipelas	1.

There were many less cases of notifiable infectious diseases than last year. Six new cases of Tuberculosis, however, were notified.

I have received no records of Venereal Diseases. The nearest Centre for treatment is at Exeter, and presumably, any cases that occur in this district go to Exeter direct for treatment, and do not come under my notice.

Water Supply.

1. The supply to the town during 1950 has been satisfactory (a) as to quality, after chlorination, and (b) as to quantity - although on a number of occasions it was necessary to pump from the emergency well.
The average daily flow during the year was 76,066 gallons.
In the outlying districts the supplies are privately owned, except the Public Pumps at the villages of Tipton St. John and Wiggaton, which were normally satisfactory as to quality and quantity.
2. Samples were taken approximately every two months - every sample of water as going into the piped supply was found to be satisfactory, and "equivalent to Class I piped supply".
3. The water is relatively hard and has no plumbo-solvent action.
4. No action was taken in respect of any form of contamination.
5. Periodical bacteriological examinations were made of the piped supply to the town, and the results obtained from the chlorinated water were quite satisfactory. The unchlorinated water showed evidence of organic pollution.

(The chlorination plant is situated approximately 75 yards from the reservoirs, and the water is chlorinated at this point before entering the reservoirs).

Water Supply (Continued).

6. No action has been taken during the year with regard to pollution at the source. The Council gave all possible support to the formation of The East Devon Water Board, which will ultimately arrange to give an alternative supply. Further consideration has been given to proposals for an immediate supply to augment the present town water supplies. During the year contract works were commenced on the sinking of an additional bore-hole.
7. The supply in the built-up area of the district is piped direct to 696 premises with an approximate population of 2,111, this being a little over 50% of the population of the whole of the district according to the 1939 census.

Sewerage.

The sewage from the town area gravitates to a small works where it is dealt with by TWO settling tanks and SIX contact beds. The outlying rural areas are dealt with by cesspits with, of course, the exceptions of the Alfington, Tipton St. John and West Hill Housing Sites where separate sewage filter systems are installed. The district's arrangements are considered satisfactory, and, during the year, no nuisances occurred.

Meat and Other Foods.

There have been no outbreaks of food poisoning during the year. Periodical inspections were carried out at Butchers' Premises; Slaughterhouses; Cafes; Hotel Kitchens; Bakehouses; Ice Cream Retailers' Premises; Mobile Ice Cream Vans, etc., Carcases inspections as Ante- and Post-Mortem Examinations are normally made at the Central Abattoir.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) F. N. SIDEBOTHAM.

Medical Officer of Health.

